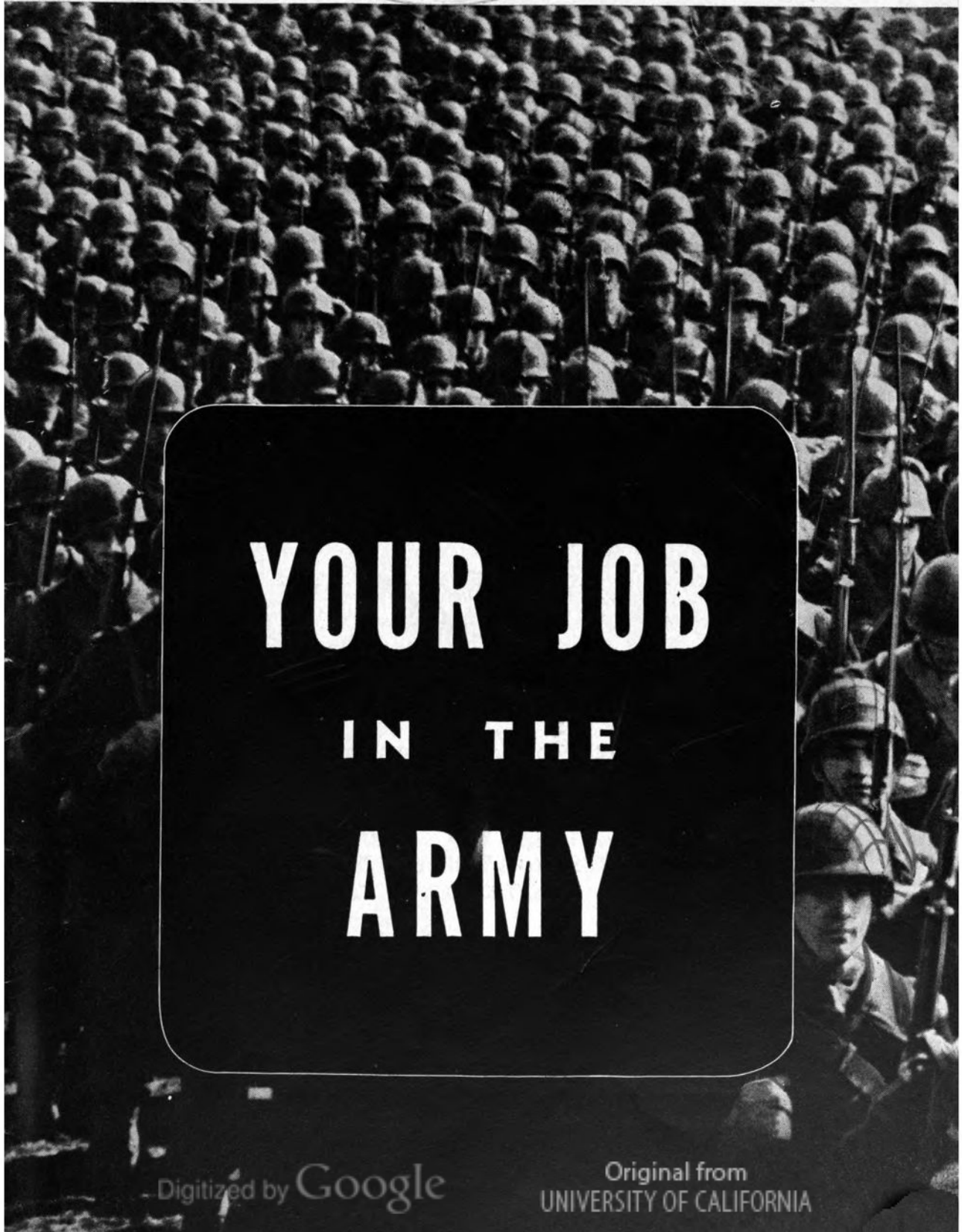


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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

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Chief of Staff.

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YOUR JOB IN THE ARMY

INTRODUCTION

There are many things to be done in the Army. This book tells you about some Army jobs. We need men for all of these jobs. Men must be trained for them. Some men can do their best work in one type of job. Other men can do much better in other kinds of work. The soldier should find out about many jobs. He should remember that there is no job that all men can do well. And there is no man who can do well in all jobs. But there is a job for every soldier.

The Army wants to train you for a job which you can do well. In this way, you can serve your country best.

Read the following stories about jobs. Pick out the jobs which you would like to do. It may be possible for the Army to train you for one of these jobs.

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Ammunition handler



Ammunition handlers move ammunition where it is needed. These workers take it to trucks and guns. They must be strong and quick.

Ammunition handlers also make ammunition dumps. Bullets and shells are hidden in these dumps. First, the bullets and shells are put in small piles. These piles are placed so that a bomb hit will not destroy all the ammunition. Canvas sheets are then pulled over the piles and covered with branches and leaves. In this way, the ammunition is hidden.

The handlers move the ammunition from the dump to trucks. The trucks carry the ammunition where it is needed. Then, other ammunition handlers unload the trucks.

Ammunition handlers work hard. They get the shells to the guns. Guns cannot be fired without ammunition. And the Army cannot fight without ammunition handlers.



***B**aker*



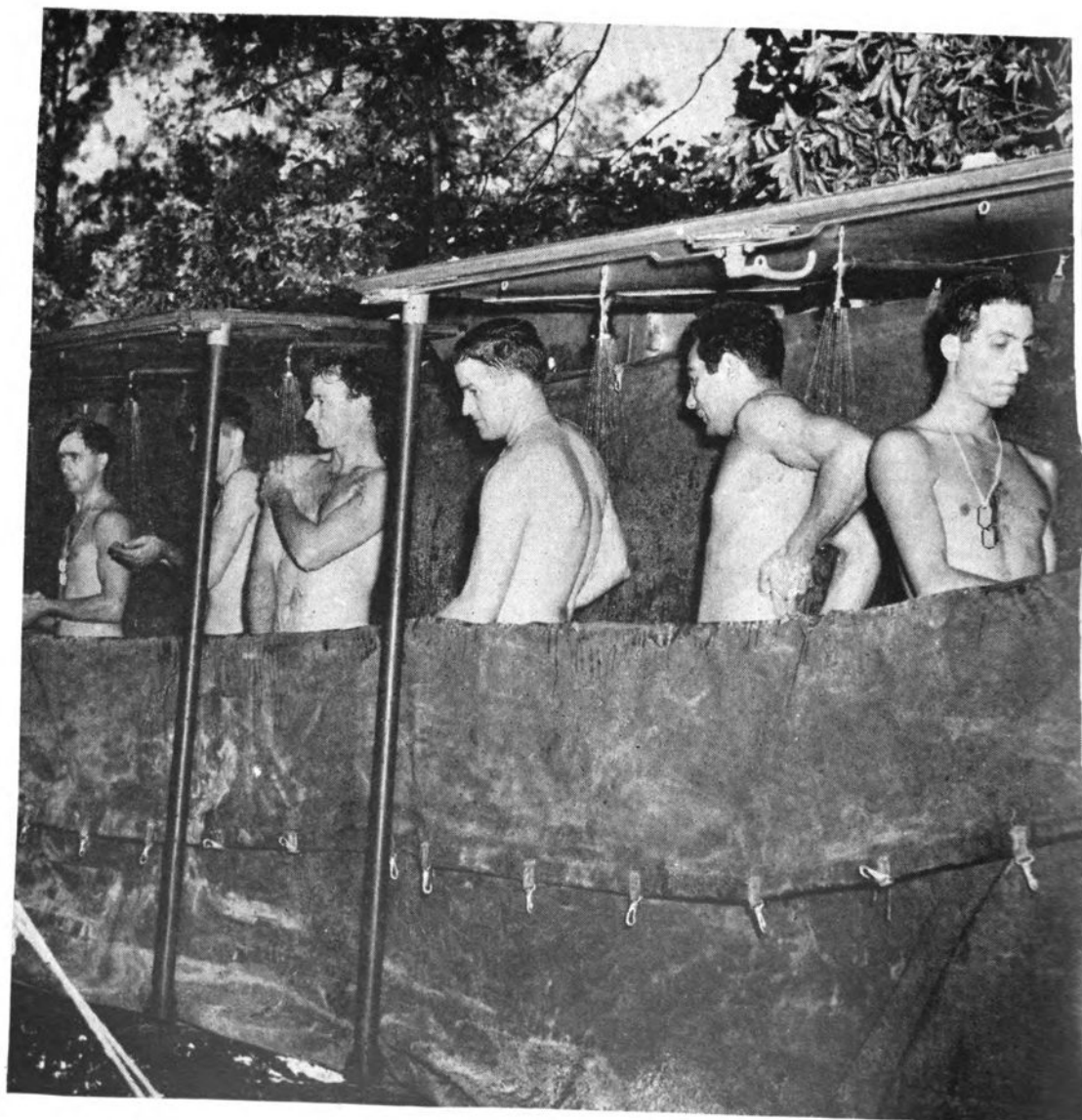
The baker makes bread and rolls. He also bakes cakes and pies for the Army. Like the cook, he must see that soldiers have good things to eat.

He often mixes his dough or batter by hand. Sometimes he uses a machine. He cuts the dough and shapes it by hand. He greases the pans and puts the dough in them. The dough is then ready for the oven. Now the baker must see that the oven is neither too hot nor too cold. When the heat is just right, he puts the dough in the oven. But he must watch and change the heat as the baking goes on. When the bread or pie is fully baked, it is taken from the oven. It is now ready to eat.

The baker makes many pies, cakes, and loaves of bread. He must know the Army way of doing these things.



***B**ath attendant*



In the field, soldiers are not always able to keep clean. They often have to fight in dirt and mud. Sometimes they cannot take off their clothes at night.

Bath attendants help soldiers to keep clean. They can help to keep soldiers well. They shave the soldiers' bodies to get rid of lice. They help the soldier bathe in vinegar, kerosene, or gasoline. In this way they make sure that all the lice are killed. Then the soldiers take their showers. Bath attendants see that the soldiers use plenty of soap and water. After the shower, there should be no dirt or lice on the soldier.

Bath attendants know that their work is important. This work keeps soldiers well and satisfied. Healthy and happy soldiers fight better than dirty and diseased men.



Cannoneer



Cannoneers load and fire big guns. They also keep the guns clean and ready for use.

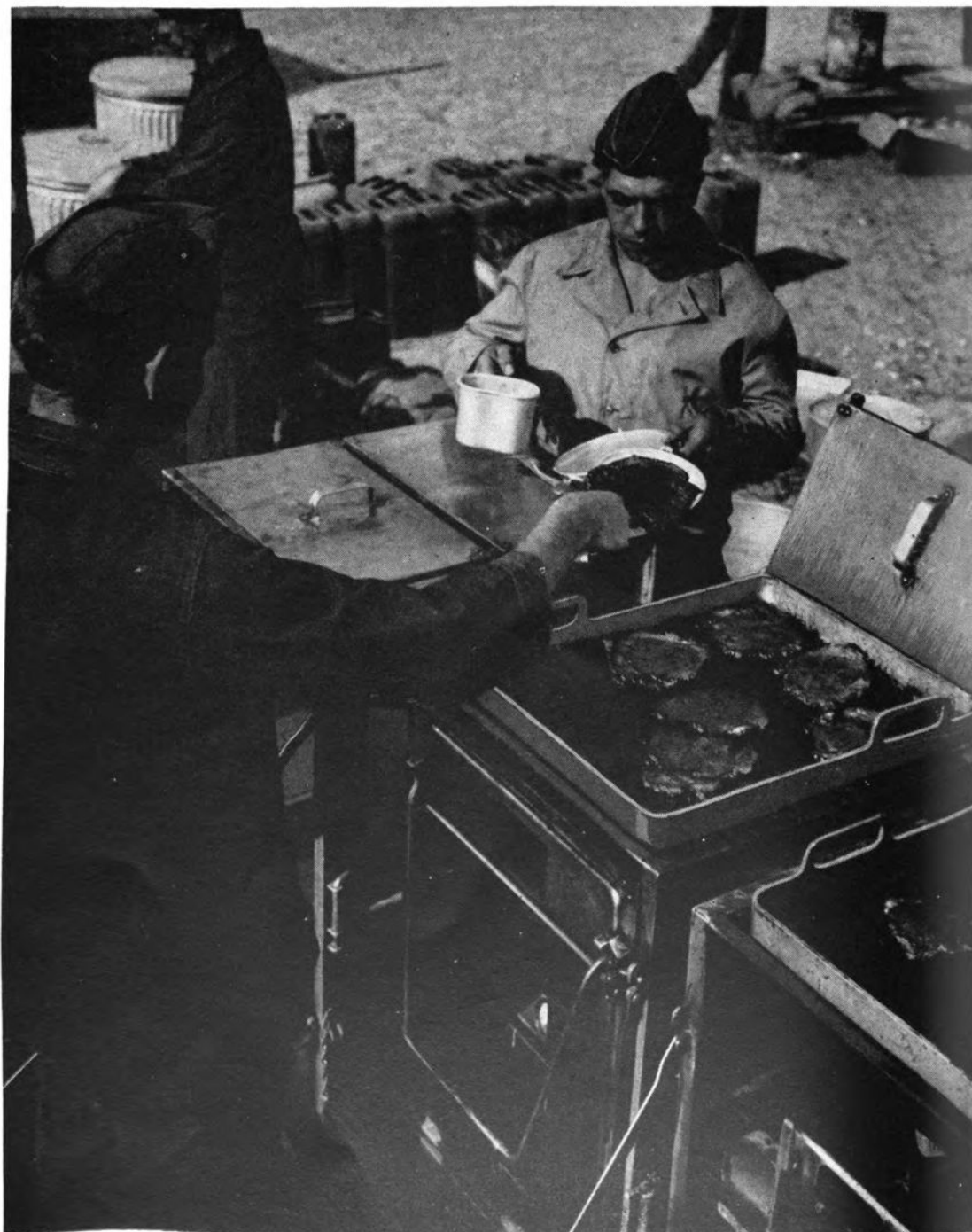
Big guns are fired in this way. First, ammunition handlers bring up the shells. The cannoneers get the shells ready and load the gun. The gunner aims the gun. Sometimes the cannoneers help him do this. Then the cannoneers stand by while one of them fires the gun.

Cannoneers must be strong. They must move guns into place and get them ready for firing. They must also know how to fix guns and keep them in good order.

The cannoneer does not work alone. He works as part of a team. Each man on the team has his own job to do. He must know every move he is to make. And he must be able to do the right thing at the right time.



Cook



Someone has said that food will win the war. A well-fed soldier makes the best fighter. The Army gets good food for its soldiers. The job of the Army cook is to prepare good meals.

The cook reads a menu to find out what to cook. A menu is a guide which tells him what foods will be served. He must study these menus carefully. And he must know the Army way to prepare food.

The Army cook sees that the kitchen is kept clean. He must do this in camp and in the field. He must also know how to set up and use the field range. Sometimes he cooks in a rolling kitchen.

Soldiers must get three good meals every day. Many meals are needed for our large Army. And the cook must get them ready. He is kept very busy at this big job.



***D**econtaminating equipment operator (gas-cleaner)*



Soldiers are protected from some gases when they wear gas masks. But other gases stay on the ground for a long time. They also stay on clothing and equipment for many hours after a gas attack. These gases must be removed. The gas-cleaner gets rid of the enemy's poison gas.

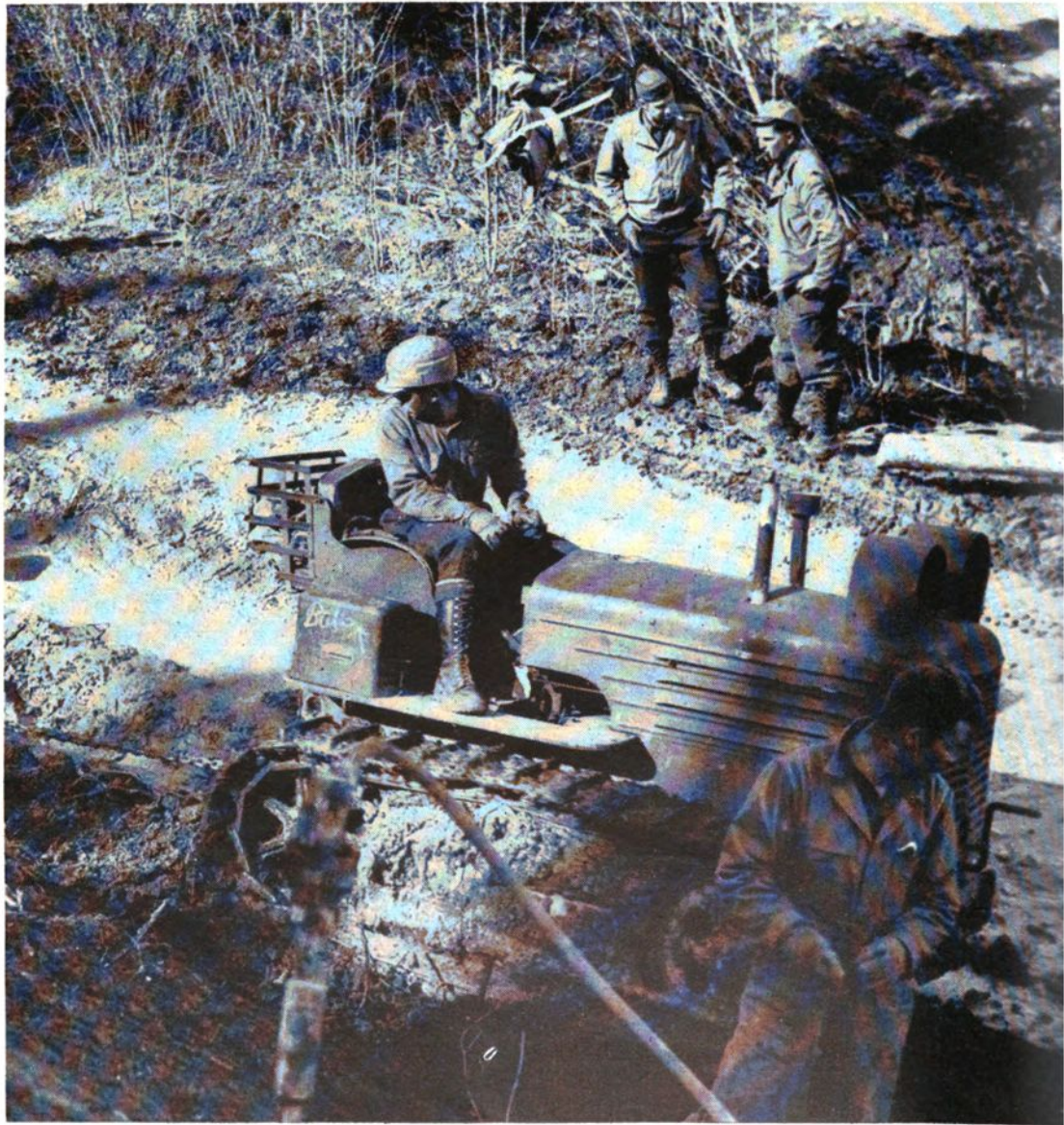
The gas-cleaner works as a part of a squad. His job is a hard one. And he must be able to stay at his job for a long time.

The gas-cleaner must be protected from gas while he works. He wears a gas mask and special clothes. These keep the gas from hurting him.

Gas-cleaners use shovels and brushes to get rid of gas. They also work with sprays and machines. They must know how to make the right spray to be used on each kind of gas. And they must know when and where to use each spray.



***H**ighway maintenance man*

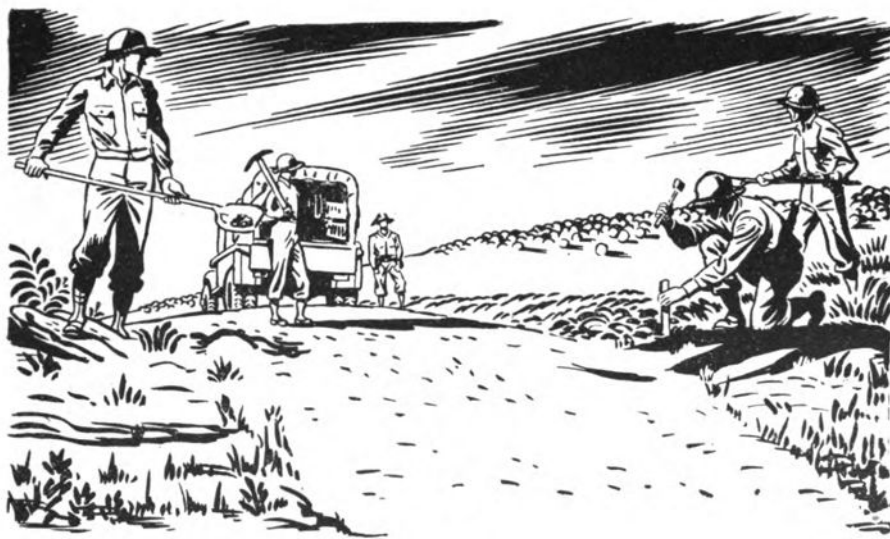


Army supplies and equipment must be kept moving. The job of the highway maintenance man is to keep the roads in good condition. Then supplies can be taken to our soldiers easily.

The highway maintenance man must know how to patch or mend damaged roads. After an air raid, he has much work to do. He must clear the roads. To do this, he must be able to use axes, picks, shovels, and mattocks. If the damage is great, he may also have to drive a scraper.

In cold weather, roads are often blocked by snow. The highway maintenance man must be able to use a snow plow to clear them.

The highway maintenance man helps to keep the Army moving.



***L**aborer*



Laborers do many kinds of work. Some of them build barracks. Others make and repair roads. They cut down trees. And they clear the ground for new roads or buildings.

Some laborers work with hammers and saws. They drive nails or saw wood. Others work with picks and shovels. They dig ditches or clear away rocks. They may get the ground ready for a roadbed. The laborer must know how to use his tools and how to take care of them.

The laborer must be strong and tough. He may have to work in the hot sun or in the cold of winter. And many of his jobs require long, hard hours of work.



Machine gunner



Success in this war depends on the right use of many weapons. One of the most important of these weapons is the machine gun. The machine gunner must know all the parts of this gun. He may have to replace worn parts. To do this, he must be able to take the gun apart and put it together again.

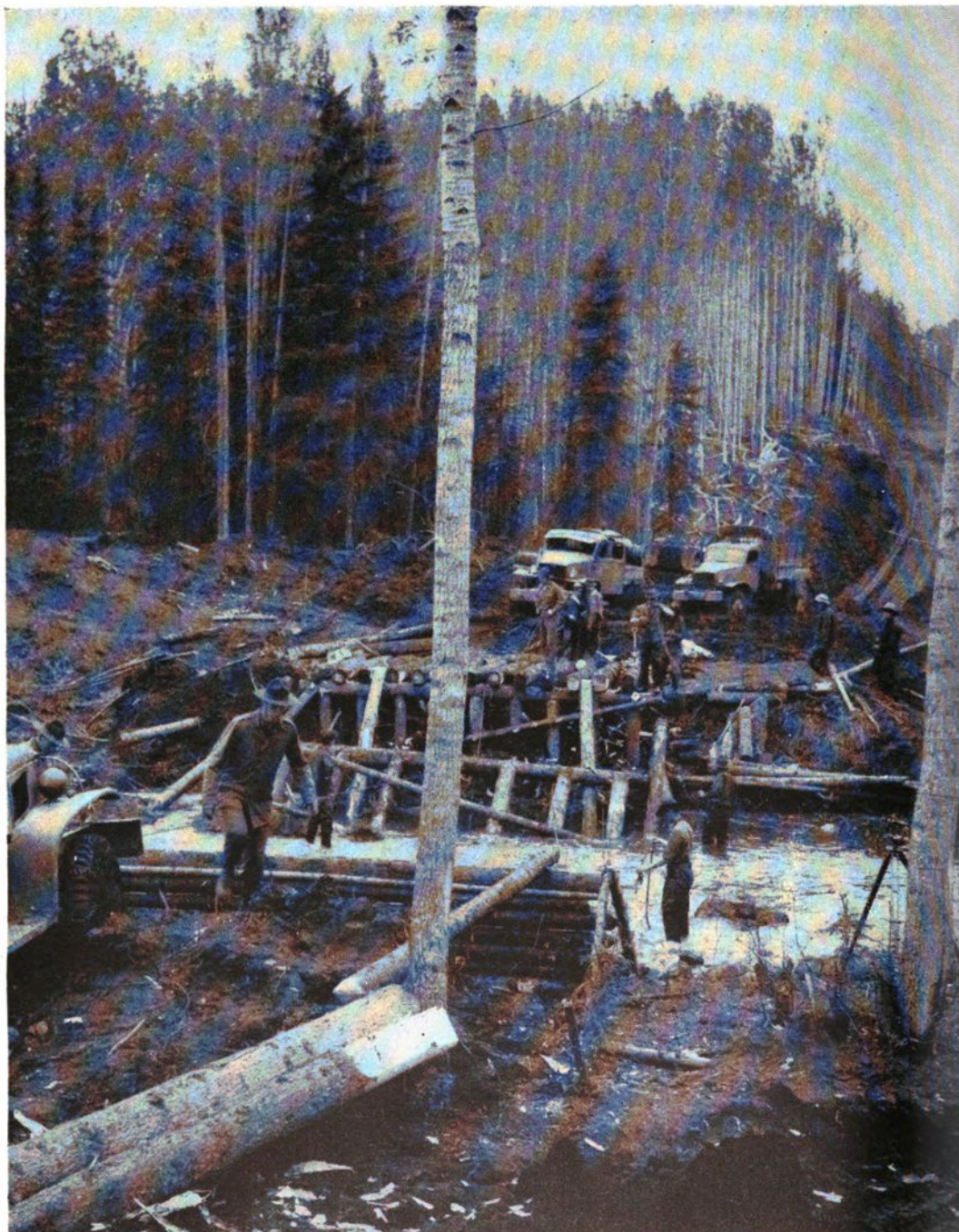
In order to hit the target, the machine gunner must know the right way to aim. And he must be a good judge of distance.

The machine gunner must know how to shoot from fixed positions and from moving vehicles. He must also know how to shoot at fixed and moving targets.

The machine gunner's job is dangerous. The enemy fears him and wants to destroy him. But he must stay by his gun. He knows that our troops depend on him.



Pioneer



Pioneers build new roads through forests and jungles. They clear away trees and large stones. They fill in ditches and build bridges. In these ways they help our troops and vehicles get through rough country.

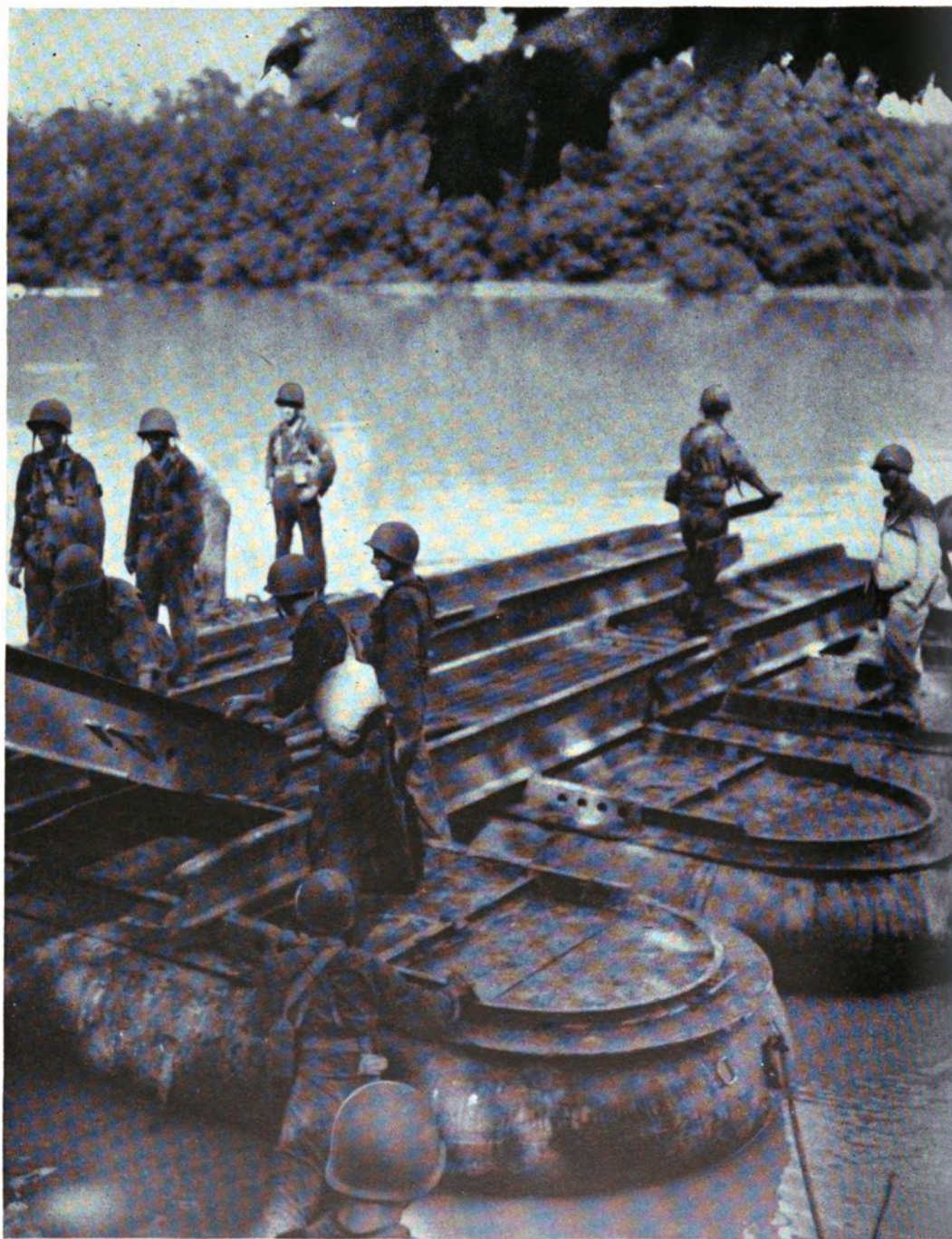
Pioneers destroy enemy tank traps and remove barbed wire. They also dig up land mines laid by the enemy. They know how to do these things in a hurry. When they do their work well, our troops can move fast.

Pioneers build tank traps. They put up barbed wire and put land mines in place. In these ways they slow up the action of the enemy.

Pioneers work with wire, heavy timber, nails, and many tools. They must be strong men. And they must be brave. They go ahead and clear the way for the troops. Like pioneers of old, they work their way through strange and new lands.



*P*ontoneer



Pontoneers build bridges for the Army. These bridges are laid on flat-bottomed boats or frames called pontons. They are built very quickly. They help soldiers cross rivers or streams without delay.

First, the bridge parts are unloaded from trucks. Rows of pontons are floated on the water. They are fastened to each other and to the shore. Floor strips are placed over them. Then the bridge is ready for the troops to use.

Water gets into some kinds of pontons. Then the pontoneer has to pump it out. He also repairs parts of damaged bridges. After our troops have crossed, the pontoneer may take the bridge down. This will keep the enemy from using our bridges.

The pontoneer must be strong. He must be able to work long and hard. Sometimes he may have to work under enemy fire. But he must get the bridge ready for the troops.



Rifleman



A rifleman must know how to shoot well. He must also be good at bayonet fighting. And he must know how to throw grenades.

When the enemy is at a distance, the rifleman shoots at him. He uses his bayonet if the enemy is close. Sometimes the enemy may be under cover. Then the rifleman throws a grenade at him.

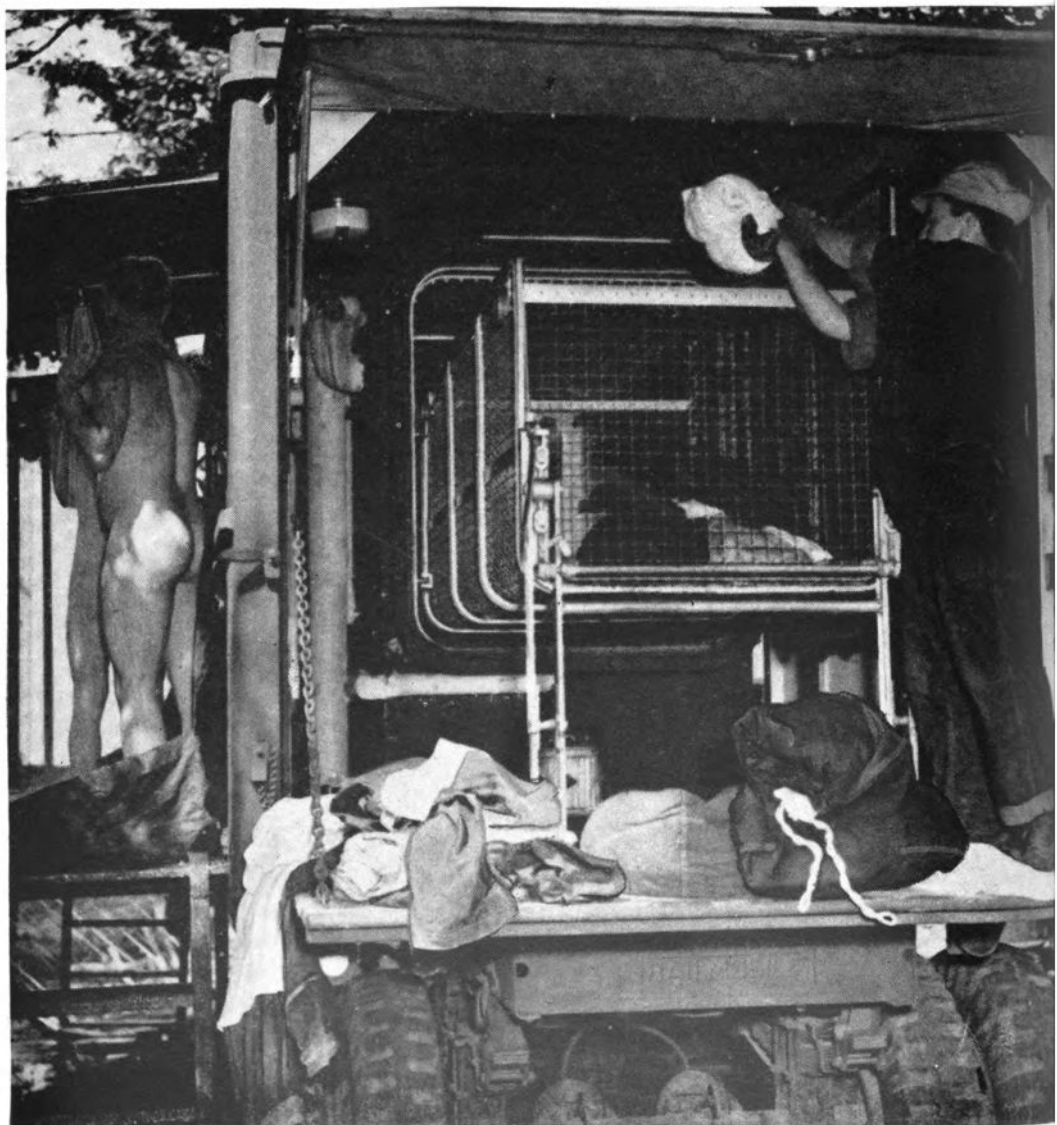
A rifleman must learn how to take care of his rifle. He must know how to clean and oil it. And he must be able to fix it if it jams.

Riflemen practice aiming on the rifle range. At first, they shoot at fixed targets. Later, they have practice in shooting at moving targets. They try to hit the bull's-eye. If the rifleman has learned to aim and fire well, he will hit the bull's-eye.

Many riflemen are sharpshooters. Some are experts. All of them help to kill the enemy. They must be brave and must know when to take chances. They have one of the most important jobs in the Army.



Sterilizer operator



Sterilizer operators help to keep the soldiers' clothes clean. Sometimes troops are sent where their clothes cannot be washed often. Dirt and insects get into their clothes. These are not good for the soldier. So the clothes must be cleaned.

First the men undress. They give their clothes to the sterilizer operator. He puts a tag on them. Then he puts them into a machine. He has to watch to see that the heat is right. Heat kills the insects. He must also make sure that the clothes are not damaged. When the clothes are clean, the operator takes them out. He gives them back to the soldiers. Now the soldiers are more comfortable.

The sterilizer operator has to work fast. He has many clothes to keep clean. And these clothes must be cleaned in a hurry. Soldiers cannot wait long to have their clothes cleaned.



***T**ruck driver*



The truck driver takes trucks wherever they are needed. Men, supplies, or equipment may be loaded in these trucks. Or large guns may be pulled along behind them. It is the truck driver's job to get these men and materials through.

During the training period, men and supplies are taken by truck to different parts of the camp. On the battle lines, also, the Army trucks move troops. And they take supplies from one place to another.

The driver must keep his truck clean and ready for use. He goes over it every day. He checks the water, oil, and gasoline. He also makes sure that there is plenty of air in the tires.

The truck driver must be strong and willing to work. He must help in loading and unloading his truck. And he must see that nothing happens to his load on the way. He must always keep his truck in good condition. Our Army must be kept moving. And the truck driver is doing his share to keep it moving.



Wrecker *operator*



Army cars and trucks must travel over rough roads. Sometimes they are driven through fields and woods where there are no roads. They may get stuck in streams, rivers, or mud. Or they may run into other cars or trees. And they may be turned over or wrecked in some other way.

When this happens, the wrecker operator is called. He drives the wrecker to the place of the accident. When he gets there, he fastens a chain to the wrecked vehicle. The hoist on the wrecker is used to put the vehicle back onto the road. Then it can be pulled to the repair shop.

The wrecker operator must be a good driver. He must know where to place his wrecker. And he must be able to fasten the chain to the wreck. He must know how to work the hoist. All of these things call for great care and skill.

When there are accidents, a wrecker has much work to do. The wrecker operator must always be ready to do his job.



CHOOSE YOUR JOB

NOW YOU KNOW something about many jobs in the Army. Try to answer the following questions. These answers will help you in choosing your job.

- 1.** *For which jobs will you need the most training?*
- 2.** *Which jobs need strong men to carry heavy loads?*
- 3.** *In which jobs must the work be done under enemy fire?*
- 4.** *In which jobs must you work fast and in a team?*
- 5.** *In which jobs would you move soldiers and supplies?*
- 6.** *Which jobs help keep the men clean and in good health?*
- 7.** *In which jobs would you be working with some kind of machines?*
- 8.** *Which jobs deal with guns and ammunition?*
- 9.** *What other jobs could you do in the Army?*
- 10.** *Which two jobs do you think you would like best?*



